Madawaska River Provincial Park

Management Plan

Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources

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Minister

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Deputy Minister

3647

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APPROVAL STATEMENT

Madawaska River Provincial Park is an unrivaled white water river set in towering forested hills. The combination of flat water and white water sections, scattered with small but intense rapids of varying degrees of difficulty, make it an attractive river for beginner canoeists and experts alike. Originally used by logging companies in the late 1800's, this river corridor contains exceptional earth science, life science, historical and recreational values, forming a valuable addition to the provincial park system.

We are pleased to approve the Madawaska River Provincial Park Management Plan, as official policy for the management and development of this Park. The plan reflects this Ministry's intent to protect natural and cultural features of the Madawaska River and maintain and develop low-intensity opportunities for outdoor recreation and heritage appreciation for both residents and visitors to the Province.

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Boom ring at the head of Slate Falls

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Madawaska River is one of the finest recreational rivers in southern Ontario. Beginning at Source Lake in Algonquin Park, it traverses 225 kilometres of diverse landscapes and descends 244 metres before it meets the Ottawa River at Arnprior.

In 1971 a Park Reserve was established on the Madawaska between Aumonds Bay and Highland Falls. Located in the southwest corner of Renfrew County in Eastern Ontario, it is approximately 370 kilometres northeast of Toronto and 180 kilometres west of Ottawa (Figure 1).

This 21 kilometre section of the river has special appeal for white water enthusiasts, providing a challenging river for beginners and experts alike. This river also supplies numerous fishing, hunting and hiking opportunities.

It has also been recognized that the river has significant natural and historical features.

The Aumonds Bay Wetland area located just south of Aumonds Bay contains a number of regionally significant plant species. Such unusual species as the showy lady's slipper (Cypripedium reginae), the yellow lady's slipper (C. Calceolus var parviflorum), water marigold (Megalodonta beckii), mare's tail (Hippuris vulgaris), and floating arrowhead (Sagittaria cuneata) not common to this part of Ontario are found here.

Areas located beyond the protection of Madawaska River Park but within the original study area have been identified as being regionally significant and should be considered as Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest in order to highlight and protect significant and natural features. These areas include Mount Jamieson (variety of relatively undisturbed forest communities), Highland Creek (unusual plant species in a black ash/black spruce swamp) and Negeek Lake Sandspit (nine vegetative communities representing a variety of sand habitats).

The Madawaska River served as a major spillway draining meltwaters of receding late Wisconsinan ice. A considerable variety of surficial features of glaciation are found in the vicinity of the river, including eskers, kames, outwash plains, terraces, kettles, bay mouth bars, spits, bogs and gravel bars.

The oldest rocks in the area are metasediments deposited 1.5 to 1.25 billion years ago. These metasediments have been cut by a wide variety of plutonic rocks emplaced from 1.3 to 1.0 billion years ago. Metamorphism has converted most of these plutonic rocks into intensely deformed and coarse gneisses and granite pegmatite dikes.

There are numerous examples of historical features within the park left by loggers of the past century. Slate Falls contains the most significant of these features. Names of loggers who lost their lives at this point in the river have been chiselled onto the bedrock. A diversion channel built by the loggers to direct the logs around the falls can still be seen here.

Artifacts left by native Indians have also been found. The island at the head of the Snake Rapids is just one of the many sites along the river's length.

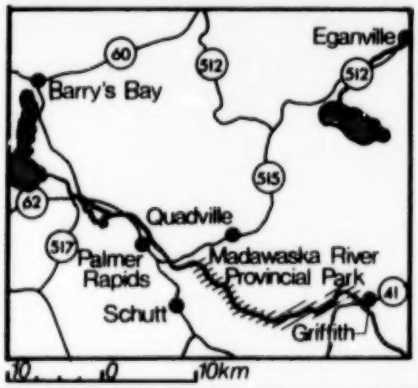
However, some problems have evolved on this unique waterway. During the seventies, use of the river greatly increased and in the Aumonds Bay to Griffith or "Lower Rapids" section, garbage, waste accumulation and over-use of some areas degraded the river environment. Secondly, proposed Ontario Hydro impoundments would have completely altered the river, flooding rapids, deer yards and productive forest lands.

In 1978, an interim Crown land management program was put into effect to protect the river in the short term while long term plans were being formulated.

A number of alternative ways of managing the river for the future were considered including several forms of Crown land management and the creation of a provincial park. A detailed comparison of alternatives showed that a provincial park would ensure the best protection and management of the waterway for recreational purposes while providing economic benefits to the local community. Subsequently, Ontario Hydro agreed to

Figure 1

REGIONAL CONTEXT



postpone any consideration of the use of this site until after the year 2000. In the spring of 1981 Premier Davis announced plans for a Waterway provincial park on the Madawaska River. A management planning program was initiated in the summer of 1981.

A wide range of information was gathered concerning the waterway. River users and corridor residents have been encouraged to contribute their ideas and opinions. All of this information has provided the basis for the protection, development and management policies set out in this Plan.

This approved Management Plan establishes the direction for the park for a period of twenty years, with opportunities for review and evaluation at least every ten years.

2.0 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

As discussed in the "Introduction" this Park, over the years, has experienced a number of visitor related problems such as over-use of certain areas along the river, lack of sanitary facilities and garbage. Another concern to river users occurred when the interim Crown Land Management program was initiated in 1978 closing a number of traditional access points to the river. The intent was to control use and alleviate over-crowding of certain areas along the river. These access points are primitive at best. Some are forest access roads terminating at the river's edge, while others contain undeveloped parking and boat launching areas. Both encourage hazardous parking and over-crowding.

3.0 CLASSIFICATION

The Madawaska River will be classified as a Waterway Park under the Provincial Park Classification System. Waterway parks incorporate outstanding recreational water routes with representive natural features and historical resources to provide high quality recreational and educational experiences.

4.0 PARK GOAL

The goal of Madawaska River Provincial Park is to protect an outstanding recreational river with its associated natural and cultural features, and to provide a variety of quality outdoor recreational experiences.

5.0 OBJECTIVES

The Waterway class of parks contributes to the achievement of the four objectives of the Ontario Provincial Park System.

5.1 Protection Objective

> To protect provincially significant elements of the natural and cultural landscape of Ontario.

For park system planning purposes, the Ontario landscape is divided into 65 site districts based on criteria of biological productivity and land forms. The Madawaska River represents the Bancroft Site District (11a) and contains significant earth and life science features. The park will protect a representative portion of the geological and geomorphological history, biological environments and cultural features associated with this area.

5.2 Recreation Objective

> To provide provincial park outdoor recreation opportunities ranging from high-intensity day use to low-intensity wilderness experiences.

The Madawaska River will provide day use, back-country travel and camping opportunities in an area that has outstanding recreational potential. In doing so, the park will contribute to the achievement of the waterway class target for Site District 11 and the provincial park recreation targets for picnicking, and back-country activities as assigned to Pembroke District as part of the Ministry's strategic land use planning process. Specifically, the Madawaska River will provide the following recreation opportunities:

Picnicking	2,000
Back-country	7,560

Back-country activities consist of canoeing, kayaking, boat-in/walk-in camping and hiking.

5.3 Heritage Appreciation Objective

> To provide opportunities for exploration and appreciation of the outdoor natural and cultural heritage of Ontario.

The Madawaska River will provide the opportunity to explore and appreciate the natural and cultural waterway heritage of the Madawaska Valley in an unstructured, individual way or through interpretation and education.

5.4 Tourism Objective

> To provide Ontario's residents and out-of-province visitors with opportunities to discover and experience the distinctive regions of the Province.

Ontario's residents and out-of-province visitors will be encouraged to explore and experience the river and surrounding area in this distinctive region of the Province.

The establishment of a Provincial Waterway Park will act as a major attraction in the Madawaska Valley which could provide a catalyst for long term private sector investment. In addition, a number of opportunities for private sector involvement in the provision of operational alternatives and complimentary services may occur.

6.0 PARK BOUNDARY

The boundary of Madawaska River Provincial Park includes 1,200 hectares of Crown land surrounding the river between Aumonds Bay and Griffith (Figure 2).

The boundary will generally consist of a 200 metre setback from both edges of the river. However, at certain locations within this corridor, the boundary extends beyond the 200 metre setback in order to accommodate zoning requirements.

In addition, the boundary encompasses areas of private occupation on Crown land, authorized through Land Use Permits.

Where private land holdings abut the river, the park boundary follows the high water mark of the Madawaska River. The Ministry will not seek to acquire any of these private lands, but will consider the purchase of private lands if they are offered for sale, in order of priority of importance to the park.

The park headquarters will not be inside the boundary of the park, but will be located at the Ministry's Work Centre at Palmer Rapids.

7.0 ZONING

The impetus behind the formation of Madawaska River Provincial Park was primarily one of protection of the quality recreational experience that has attracted visitors for so many years. Secondly, the development of a provincial park is seen to provide positive benefits to the local economy. These two points have provided the basis for the zoning and the associated management and development strategies for the park.

Zoning is essential for the orderly development and effective management of a park. Zoning designations are allocated on the basis of the significance of the land for protection and its potential for recreation within the context of the park's classification. The parks in each class combine zones in a particular way to provide protection and recreation opportunities distinctive to that class. Waterway parks may include Development, Access, Natural Environment, Historical, Nature Reserve and Wilderness Zones. Madawaska River Park will include the first five of these zone types (Figure 3).

7.1 Development Zone

Development zones accommodate facilities and services for a wide range of day use and camping activities such as base camps for those recreationists using specific sections of the river. Built to specific standards, such facilities will alleviate problems associated with conflicts among users, overuse of interior campsites,

Figure 2

PARK BOUNDARY

Park Boundary

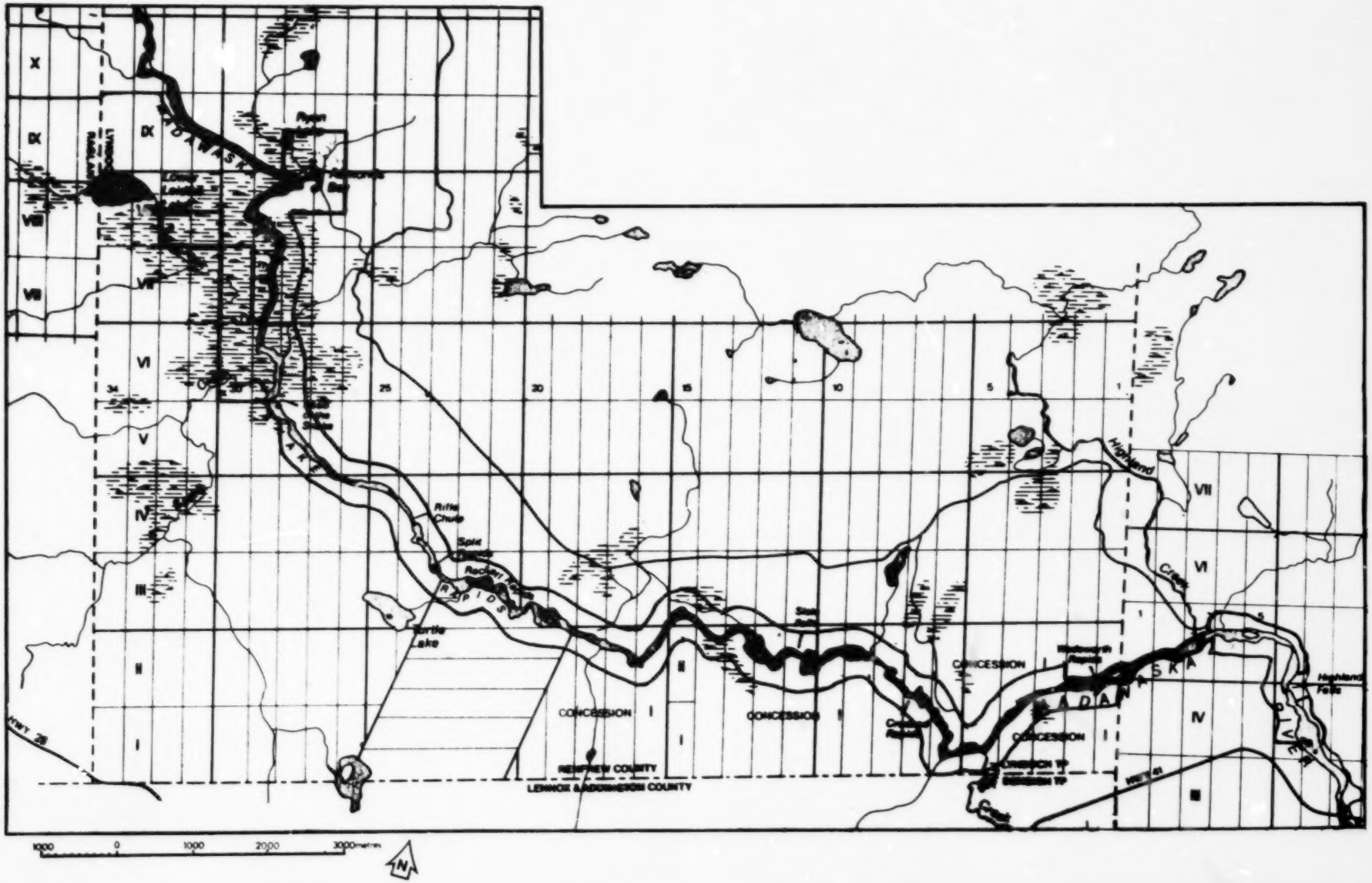
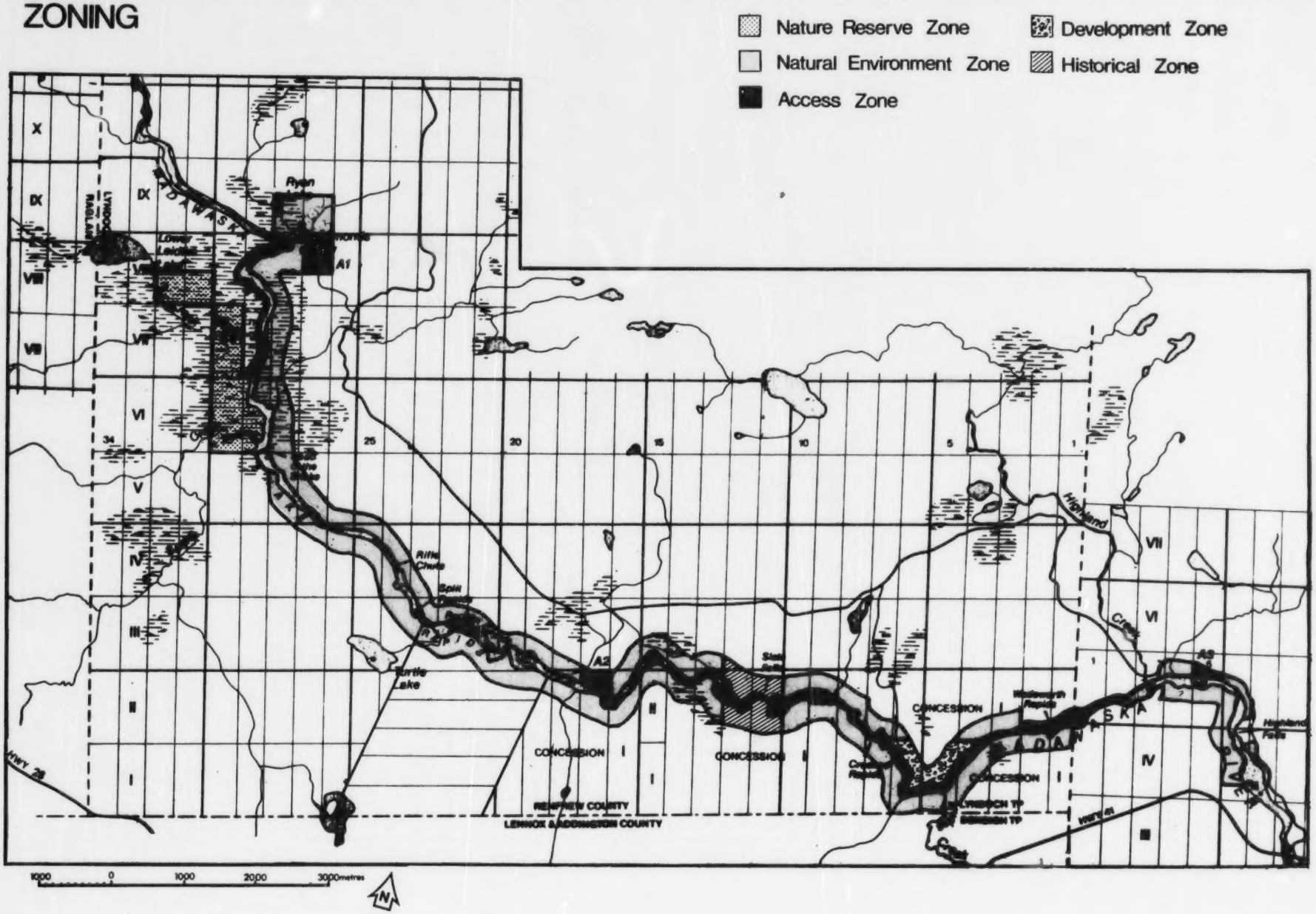


Figure 3

ZONING



provide for uncrowded conditions and alleviate trespassing on private lands.

7.1.1 Mt. Jamieson (34 ha)

This zone is located on the north side of the river at the foot of Mt. Jamieson just below Crooked Rapids.

7.2 Access Zones (31 ha)

Access zones serve as staging areas where minimum facilities support the use of the waterway. Development will be restricted to roads, parking spaces, picnic, interpretive and sanitary facilities. There will be four Access zones within the park.

7.2.1 Aumonds Bay (19 ha)

This zone (A1) identifies Aumonds Bay as a major access point. Existing facilities will be upgraded accordingly.

7.2.2 Buck Bay (8 ha)

This is another major access/egress point (A2) which will be upgraded.

7.2.3 Highland Creek (3 ha)

A small area on the Madawaska near Highland Creek will be provided as an egress point (A3) for those travelling the length of the park.

7.2.4 Access Corridor (1 ha)

This zone (A4) identifies an old logging access road to provide traditional A.T.V. access from Lot 29, Concession VII to Lot 31, Concession VII through the Nature Reserve zone. All vehicular travel must remain within this zone while passing through the Nature Reserve.

7.2.5 Access Roads

Roads providing access to the above three zones cross Crown land and will be managed in accordance with the guidelines of the Algonquin Region Modified Management Area Policy. This policy was established to enhance multiple use and integrated management on Crown land, and is part of the Pembroke District Land Use Guidelines.

7.3 Natural Environment Zone (956 ha)

Natural Environment zones include sections of the corridor in which minimum development is required to support low-intensity recreational water travel activities and to protect associated aesthetic landscapes.

Development will be limited to back-country campsites, portages, trails, necessary signs for route identification, and minimal interpretive facilities.

The Madawaska River and its tributaries contain unusual aquatic flora. Water marigold, mare's tail and floating arrowhead, which are all rare in the region occur at the mouths of Snake and Leidtke Creeks. Dense narrow bands of burreed (Sparganium americanum), wild rice (Zizania aquatica), spike-rush (Eleocharis palustris), and sweetflag (Acorus calamus) occur along the river and at the mouth of Snake Creek. Sweetflag is a southern species, which is uncommon in the region, and is approaching the northern limit of its range here.

This zone includes a 200 metre strip on each side of the river on Crown lands between Aumonds Bay and Highland Falls. The resources within these areas will be managed exclusively for low intensity recreation and protection purposes.

7.4 Historical Zone

Historical Zones include significant historical resources providing outstanding opportunities to interpret historic waterway users and activities. Such zones require management distinct from that in adjacent zones. Development will be limited to portages, trails, and interpretive displays.

7.4.1 Slate Falls (41 ha)

This zone is located on both sides of the river at Slate Falls. It has the greatest concentration of historic features within the park. Special management considerations will be given to the protection of a display of logger names carved in the rock and the improvements they made to the river to move the logs past Slate Falls.

7.5 Nature Reserve Zone

Nature Reserve Zones include significant life and earth science features which require management distinct from that in adjacent zones.

Development will be limited to trails, necessary signs, minimal interpretive facilities and temporary facilities for research.

7.5.1 Aumonds Bay Wetlands (138 ha)

This zone is located along the shore southwest of Aumonds Bay. It includes a large wetland complex of high representative value, characterized by large swamps and boggy areas. The bogs support unusual flora which are rare in the Algonquin Region.

Two rare orchids, showy lady's slipper and yellow lady's slipper are found in a white cedar-tamarack bog in the southern portion of the wetlands. Both orchids are southern species which prefer limestone substrates and are thus very rare in this region. This is the only known existing site for the showy lady's slipper in the region.

The remaining expanse of Aumonds Bay wetlands will be incorporated within the park's boundaries as opportunities permit on the basis of properties being offered to this Ministry and the availability of funding.

8.0 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

8.1 Vegetation Management

The various zone types in the park will require different management techniques according to the purpose of each zone. A Vegetation Management Plan will be drawn up for all park zones. The purpose of the plan is to create an environment that is aesthetically pleasing and suitable for recreational uses and is in accordance with Waterway park planning policies.

Trees cut for development and management purposes will be retained for various park uses. Non-native plant species will not be introduced.

Special management prescriptions in accordance with wildlife requirements will be applied in areas identified as important deer yards. Vegetation will be managed in accordance with deer yard management plans.

Insects and diseases threatening park values will be controlled where feasible. Where control is desirable, it will be directed as narrowly as possible to the specific insect or disease so as to have minimal effects on other components of the park's environment. Biological control will be used wherever feasible.

Forest fires will be aggressively suppressed. Fire suppression techniques should have as minimal effect as possible on the park's environment. Decisions as to appropriate fire suppression tactics will be made by the designated fire staff.

The Pembroke District Fire Control Plan affords the park area good protection. Unit fire crews and equipment caches are located at Palmer Rapids and Dacre from April 1 to mid-September. The park will be identified as a High Risk Zone in the Pembroke District Wild Fire Prevention Plan.

Vegetation management will vary accordingly in the following zones which constitute Madawaska River Park. No commercial forestry operations will be permitted within the park.

8.1.1 Mt. Jamieson Development Zone

Native species may be used for site rehabilitation purposes and fertilizers may be used.

Development and management efforts in this zone will be aimed at preserving as much of the natural character of the area as possible.

8.1.2 Aumonds Bay, Buck Bay, Highland Creek Access Zones

Trees may be cut for purposes of safety, roads, trails and parking only.

Vegetation alterations will be allowed only to achieve the purpose of the zones which is to serve as staging areas where minimum facilities support use of the waterway. Fertilizers may be used in these zones.

8.1.3 Slate Falls Historical Zone

Cutting in this zone will only be allowed for purposes of safety and trail, portage and "Interior" campsite development and maintenance. Native species may be used for site rehabilitation.

8.1.4 Aumonds Bay Wetlands Nature Reserve Zone

Natural succession will be allowed to progress unimpeded. However, if the water table changes significantly, measures will be taken to identify the reason and to rectify the problem.

8.1.5 Natural Environment Zone

Cutting in this zone type will only be allowed for purposes of safety and aesthetics, and for trail, portage and campsite development and maintenance. Native species may be used for site rehabilitation. Herbicides may be used to control poison ivy in areas of concentrated recreational use such as portages.

8.2 Fisheries

Existing sport fishing opportunities within the park area will be increased through the provision of additional access and camping facilities. Native fish species such as walleye (Stizostedion vitreum), may be stocked. Spawning and nursery areas will be protected through increased management efforts.

Waterbodies may be closed to fishing temporarily for fisheries research or management purposes. Commercial bait fishing will be allowed. Although Green Lake is not incorporated in the park, it will be managed as a put-and-take fishery.

8.3 Wildlife

Animal populations may be controlled when essential to protect human health and safety or the health of the species outside the park. Where special control is desirable, techniques will be used having minimal effects on other components of the park's environment. Any special population control measures will be carried out under the strict supervision of or directly by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Non-native animal species will not be introduced in the park.

White-tail deer (Odocoileus virginianus) within the park will be managed in accordance with special wildlife management prescriptions which might include vegetation manipulation and supplementary feeding programs.

8.3.1 Trapping

Small portions of three registered traplines exist inside the park (Figure 4). Trapping will be allowed to continue within the park with the exception of the trapline located in the Aumonds Bay Wetlands Nature Reserve Zone. The trapping rights to this area will be phased out in a manner least harmful to the economic well being of the existing trapper.

There is minimal conflict between trapping and recreational users during the trapping season. However, potential problems can be avoided through visitor and trapper education, and through spatial separation of trapping activities and recreational facilities.

8.3.2 Hunting

Sport hunting as defined under the Game and Fish Act will be permitted only in the Natural Environment Zone and only during the months of October to March. This is a small reduction in the length of the normal hunting season. But due to possible conflicts with other recreational pursuits on the river it is seen as necessary.

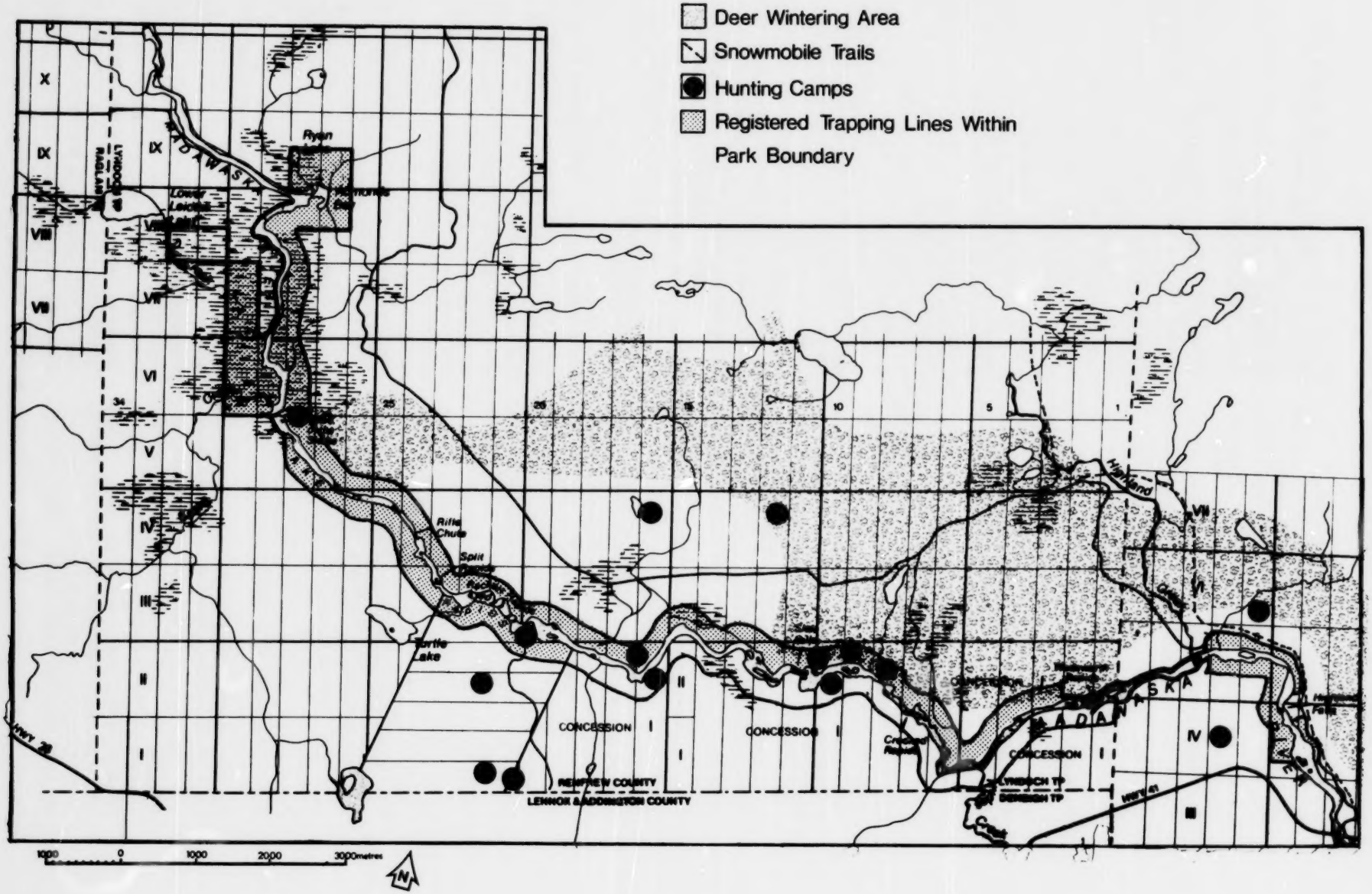
8.3.3 Hunt Camps

Eight hunt camps are located inside the park boundary along the river (Figure 4). Hunt camps are permitted on Crown land under the terms and conditions of Land Use Permits which are issued annually.

The hunt camps will be allowed to remain in the park.

No Land Use Permits will be issued for new hunt camps within the park. Any additions or alterations to existing camps will require prior approval of the District Manager.

Figure 4
DEVELOPMENT CONSTRAINTS



8.4 Water Resources and Control

No new water control structures will be built within the park.

No special water release from the Palmer Dam for white water recreational activities will be negotiated with Ontario Hydro at this time.

Besides the yearly fluctuations in precipitation in the watershed, Ontario Hydro has a number of other considerations in dealing with this request. Bark Lake acts as a reservoir for the Madawaska system and is regulated to provide water to the system at low run-off periods, such as winter, when power demand is high. Secondly, Hydro has a commitment to maintain stable water levels for cottagers on Kamaniskeg Lake throughout the summer. Thirdly, Hydro is working with the Ministry's Fish and Wildlife Branch to regulate water levels in Conroy's Marsh at the mouth of the York River so as to encourage waterfowl and muskrat populations in the Wetland. Fourthly, there are costs incurred by Hydro in the manual operation of the dam.

8.5 Cultural Resources

Slate Falls has the greatest concentration of historical logging features within the park. This area contains various types of historical examples that have been noted along the river from Aumonds Bay to Highland Falls, including a site where the names of loggers who died on the river were carved into the bedrock. The concentration of features and the special importance of the loggers memorial make Slate Falls the major heritage resource along the river.

While most of the historical features in the park are not sensitive to continued recreational use, the names carved in the rock are an exception. Already most of the names are illegible and continued use of the portage that is located adjacent to this site will lead to further deterioration of the carvings.

The rock carvings require special attention. First, the present portage will be moved. The rock cut and the slide area could be made into a new portage route. This would have two advantages; it would expose the route of the slide for interpretation, and it would keep the portage close to the names so that they, too, could be viewed. Secondly, the old portage route must be intensively examined to identify all rock faces upon which names have been carved. There are probably more names and older dates than are now visible, covered by underbrush and debris. The site will be photographed and mapped and steps will be taken to protect and display the names. This could include highlighting the names (as was done at Petroglyphs Provincial Park), and ensuring that travellers can view the names without touching or walking on them.

8.6 Mining

No commercial exploration or extraction will be permitted within the park.

8.7 Utilities

No new crossings of rail or utility lines or highways will be permitted within the park. Utility lines may be established in the park for park purposes.

8.8 Snowmobiling

Snowmobiling will be allowed to continue within the park but only along traditionally used trail routes. Trail utilization will be monitored to identify future use control.

9.0 OPERATIONS STRATEGIES

A Management/Operating Strategy will be prepared for the park in accordance with guidelines issued by Parks and Recreational Areas Branch. The strategy will establish detailed guidelines and procedures for the daily management and operation of park activities and facilities.

Management systems will be established for garbage cleanup and general maintenance of back-country campsites, portages, and trails in the Natural Environment and Historical Zones. This strategy will include the following general principles:

- Solid waste from campgrounds located in the Development Zone will be disposed of outside the park.

- Visitors in Natural Environment,

Nature Reserve and Historical Zones will be required to pack-out all garbage.

- Existing forest access roads other than those required for the purposes of this plan will be gated at the park boundary. Keys will be provided where necessary for hunt camp and park management purposes.

- No person shall enter the park by any means except at a point designated for the purpose of entry by the Superintendent.

- Motor vehicles, or all terrain vehicles as defined in the Provincial Parks Act, will be allowed in the park only on designated roads or trails, except where required for park management purposes.

- An Emergency Measures Plan will be an integral part of the Management/ Operating Strategy. This plan will be drawn up under the direction of the Superintendent in consultation with other Ministry services to address potential problems of forest fire and recreational accidents.

9.1 Visitor Services

Madawaska River will supply a Seasonal Activity Visitor Services program. This type of program will entail a high degree of contact between visitor services staff, skill instructors and park visitors. Major facilities will not be provided, but personal exploration of the park and surrounding areas will be encouraged. The park Visitor Services program will consist of Information, Interpretation and Recreation components.

9.1.1 Information

A high quality public information service using print and display media and personal contact will be developed. This service will be directed towards providing information on river travel in order to enhance the ability of the visitor to use the river safely and to explore and appreciate its resources.

River Rating

The International White Water Rating System has been used to grade the major rapids at water flows ranging from extremely low to high cubic metres per second (C.M.S.). The rating is a result of the joint assessment of three private instructors and should be regarded as a guideline only. This chart will be included in the park brochure, and daily flow levels will be available from the park headquarters.

History

A land use history, describing the fur trade, logging era, agricultural developments and mining in the area will be provided complete with maps of the valley.

Park Brochure

A brochure showing park layout and facilities, designated campsites, roads, private land and access points, will be made available to visitors. A "No Trace" camping ethic will be promoted.

Points of Interest

Regional points of interest will be shown on a map and explained to encourage exploration by road of the surrounding villages and landscape. A number of natural and historical features and scenic drives will be featured. Wildlife viewing opportunities will be identified.

Accommodation

Nearby accommodation of all types will be mapped for those who wish an accommodation type other than that provided in the park or for those requiring accommodation when the park is full.

Newsletter

The park newsletter will continue to be produced when needed and will describe the development of the park, programs and services offered, activities in the park and other items of interest.

Canoe Routes

Canoe routes incorporating parts of the Madawaska system will be available on a map. The Little Mississippi and York Rivers and Centennial and Black Donald Lakes expand the range of recreational possibilities for paddlers.

9.1.2 Interpretation

Madawaska River has a provincially significant story to tell in the Provincial Park System. The role of the river in the evolution of the natural and cultural landscape of the Madawaska Valley provides ample scope for interpretation. Geological features, the fur trade, logging, mining, and agricultural activities can all be interpreted when moving through the valley, either by road or on the water. Different aspects of the theme may be interpreted for tourists, fishermen and back-country paddlers.

The Madawaska Waterway Park offers a good opportunity to integrate heritage appreciation with other recreational activities. Although none of the park's heritage resources are of excellent quality, they lend themselves to a low-key program of appreciation and exploration. These themes can be interpreted through special brochures and well informed park staff.

9.1.3 Recreation Programming

The river valley offers excellent opportunities for a wide variety of recreational activities, but especially for white water canoeing and kayaking. Programs may be offered to develop waterway skills to visitors in conjunction with private sector instructors or schools. The intent is to complement, not compete with private sector programs.

Canoeing and kayaking competitions conducted by private associations or clubs will be permitted in the park. These will be arranged well in advance of the competition date and will require the approval of the Park Superintendent. Park campsites may be reserved for this purpose. No additional facilities will be built for spectator or communication purposes.

9.1.4 Recreation Management

Recreational use of Madawaska River Park has increased greatly over the past few years creating major conflicts with the resource potential. Easy vehicle access and camping along the scenic sections of white water, over-use of some areas and the accumulation of garbage and waste has resulted in the deterioration of the river environment. White water users were being displaced by car campers, leading to further pressures on shoreline sites and island campsites. As a result, an interim Crown land management program was established in 1978 in order to control car camping and protect the river environment until the park's management plan could be developed.

The interim management program closed the Crown land portion of the river below Aumonds Bay to all vehicular access (i.e., forest access roads to the river). Camping is now prohibited at all access points. Access to the river is via four access points while limiting camping to boat-in sites only.

Madawaska River Park is now subject to a monitoring process to identify problems or conflicts and to introduce the possibility of user controls. The control of park users plays a significant role in the managed use and retention of the character of the park.

One consideration to alleviate the problem of overcrowding would be the introduction of access point quotas. When the system of access points is put into operation, adjustments in quotas would be made according to camping demands.

At present, camping sites, portages and access points are monitored by means of a limited maintenance program of signage (i.e., no camping), garbage collection at access points, area clean-ups, minimal road maintenance and clearing and marking of designated portages and campsites. Regular patrols are needed to ensure users are conforming to the intended use policy.

9.2 Research

Research by qualified individuals, which contributes to knowledge of our natural and cultural history, and the environmental and recreational management of waterways, will be encouraged in the park. Consideration will be given for future ecological surveys to map and describe the flora and fauna of the park for management purposes.

An archaeological inventory of the river corridor in the summer of 1981 identified important sites requiring further

investigation. This research will be given a high priority in visitor services funding so that the sites may be examined before there is further deterioration from recreational use.

All research programs will require the approval of the Ministry of Natural Resources District Office and must also meet all requirements under applicable provincial and federal legislation. The Ministry may approve the removal of faunal and floral specimens, soil and geological samples, and archaeological and historical artifacts by qualified researchers. All such materials removed remain the property of the Ministry. Approved research activities and facilities will be compatible with protection objectives and recreational uses in the park, and will be subject to development and management policies for Waterway Parks unless special permission is given. Sites altered by research activities will be rehabilitated as closely to their previous condition as possible.

9.3 Marketing

In order to more closely match the recreation potential of Madawaska River Provincial Park and complement the local tourist economy, a Marketing Strategy will be written for the park. The strategy will be prepared with the following objectives: to attract day paddlers staying at local facilities, urban centres and private cottages; to promote paddle-in camping while experiencing and exploring the river and surrounding area; to attract visitors during low use periods in the mid-week and shoulder seasons, augmenting involvement with the commercial sector by taking advantage of local tourist services and attractions; to generally stimulate interaction between the park and the private tourist and commercial sector in the vicinity.

10.0 DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

New development on the river will be kept to a minimum with the exception of the Mt. Jamieson development zone. The existing facilities will have redirection to control use, capacity standards of the river, and act as safeguards against unregulated and indiscriminate back-country use and camping.

Development will proceed in accordance with Figure 5 and the following guidelines. In all instances, detailed site plans will be completed and approved in advance of rehabilitation of existing facilities or the development of new facilities. Development projects will be phased according to the Implementation Strategy (Section 11.0) as needed and funding permits. All development will adhere to the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act.

10.1 Development Zone

10.1.1 Mt. Jamieson

The area on the north side of the river at the foot of Mt. Jamieson has been identified as a campground development area. It will be designed to mainly cater to paddlers and fishermen. Walk-in sites will be provided to accommodate 80 visitors, the majority being designed for group use. Toilet and basin unit privies, a small water system, a centralized garbage facility and firewood will be provided. Parking spaces and a turn-around loop will be provided well back from the river. The existing access road linking this area with the Green Lake Road will be upgraded.

10.2 Access Zones

10.2.1 Aumonds Bay

Aumonds Bay will be maintained as an access and egress point for river users. Parking spaces, a turn-around loop, garbage disposal facility, picnic facilities and privies will be provided. The existing access road connecting Aumonds Bay with the Green Lake Road will be upgraded.

10.2.2 Buck Bay

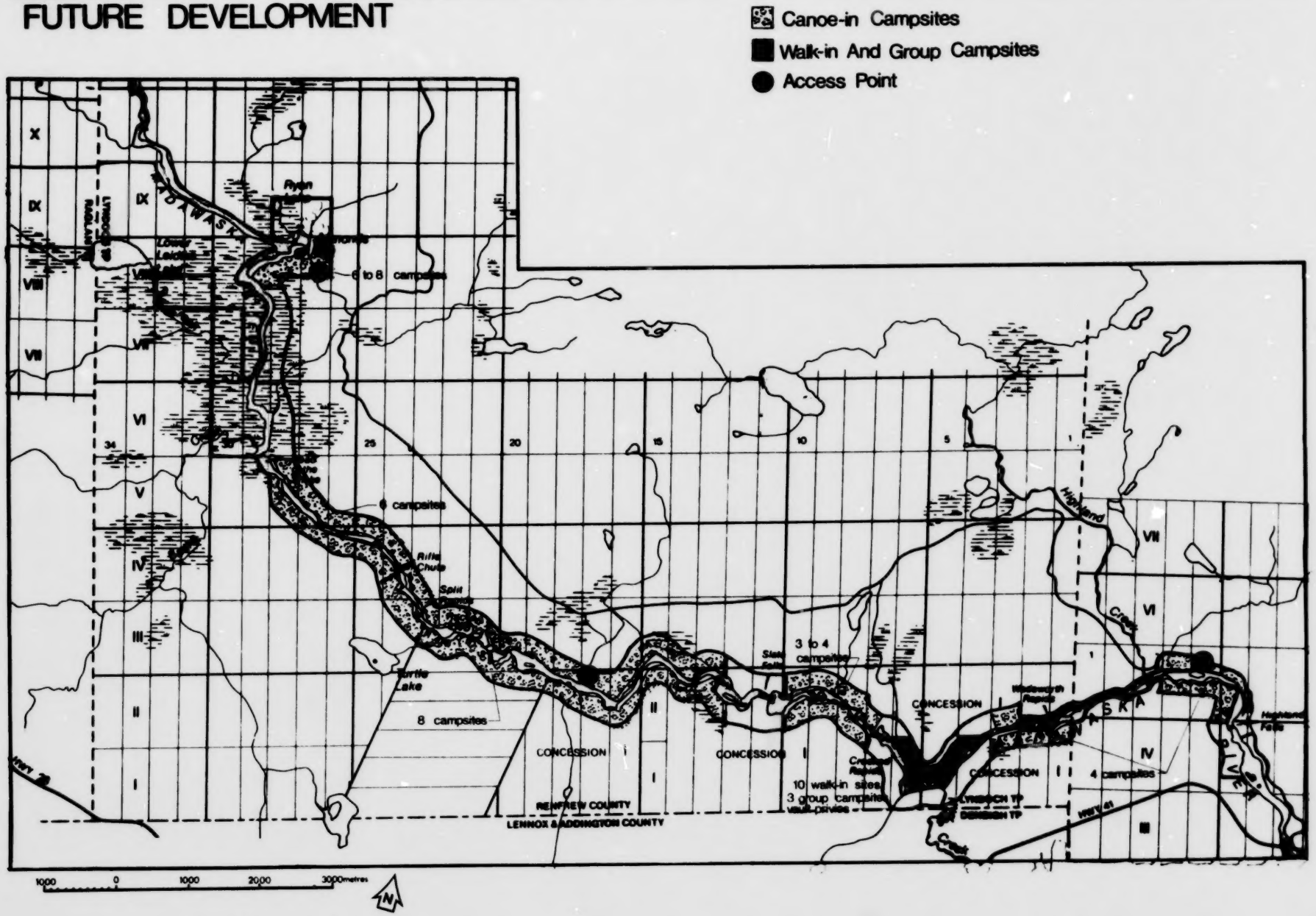
The road to Buck Bay will remain open as an access and egress point for paddlers. The road will end at a turn-around loop well back from the river. A parking lot will be provided along the road. Privies and a garbage disposal facility will be provided as well.

10.2.3 Highland Creek

A small parking lot and turn-around loop will be provided on Crown land east of Highland Creek and south of the Green Lake Road, as an egress point on the

Figure 5

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT



river. A garbage disposal facility and privies will be provided here as well.

10.2.4 Access to Park Boundary

In addition to the access roads to the three access points mentioned above, there are two old forest roads that in the past provided access to and egress from the river. One runs from the Green Lake Road to the Rackett Rapids area and the other from Green Lake Road to the Slate Falls area on the river.

Both roads will be gated at the park boundary. This means that vehicles can get within approximately 600 feet of the river providing fishermen traditional access to the river and emergency egress from the river by river users.

10.3 Natural Environment Zone

Individual campsites, similar to those in the interior of Algonquin Park will be established along the river throughout the park. The river has the potential to support approximately 30 sites. The exact location of these sites will be determined in the field. Figure 5 "Future Development" indicates the approximate number of sites to be located along particular stretches of the river. For example, 6 to 8 campsites are indicated to be developed in the vicinity of Aumonds Bay. These sites are to accommodate park visitors coming downstream from Palmer Rapids and also those arriving late in the day to the Aumonds Bay access point. The remainder of the sites along the river will accommodate visitors utilizing a particular stretch of the river or just travelling through.

Space for two tents will be available at each site and a box privy will be provided at least 30 metres back from the shore. Although the use of stoves is encouraged, a fireplace location will be identified on each site.

Campsites on islands will be eliminated and the sites rehabilitated. The islands are too small to support continued camping use and sanitary facilities. A number of them have already been severely degraded by over-use. They may, of course, still be used for meal stops, swimming and portaging. A stoves-only approach to cooking meals will be encouraged as firewood is in short supply on most of the islands.

Two new trails will be established in the park. The Mt. Jamieson trail will begin at the Mt. Jamieson campground and will follow the present road up the west side to the summit. At the present time, there is a spectacular view to the west, up the Madawaska Valley. The footings of an old fire tower are located here, creating the possibility of re-erecting a type of lookout tower to provide panoramic views of the river corridor. A return loop will descend the mountain on the east side.

A second trail will be established for river travellers on the south side of the river near Split Rapids and Rackett Rapids. This 3 kilometre trail will provide access to Turtle Lake, a small, relatively remote, and picturesque speckled trout lake. This trail could also be of assistance in the interpretation of a post-glacial drainage channel at the east end of Turtle Lake which has been identified as a significant earth science feature.

Since these trails extend beyond the proposed boundaries of the park, they will be managed in accordance with the guidelines of the Algonquin Region Modified Management Area Policy.

10.4 Park Headquarters

The park headquarters will be located at the Palmer Rapids Work Centre but will not be included within the boundary of the park. The Ministry work centre is situated on a 1.6 hectare lot and is readily accessible both from the river and the highway. Park administration, visitor services and staff facilities will be located here. A dock will be provided to ease access from the river. However, the site will not be used as an access point for river use.

10.5 Crown Land Areas Outside of Park Boundary

There are two areas affected by the park and its visitors located upstream from Aumonds Bay. They are Palmer Point and Little Rapids or better known as the "Fleguel Property".

10.5.1 Palmer Point

Palmer Rapids will be maintained as a day use area. The present loop road through the site will be closed to traffic, and parking will be provided near the township road. One half of the open area on the peninsula will be planted with trees and shrubs so as to provide suitable shade and to restrict vehicle access in the picnic area. Picnic tables and privies will be provided.

This area will be managed by the park's staff and treated as a Crown land access point.

10.5.2 Little Rapids (Fleguel Property)

No new development will take place in this area. The Fleguel Property will remain as unalienated Crown land and will not be placed into regulation under the Provincial Parks Act.

The island situated in the middle of Little Rapids will still remain posted for no camping. However, those canoeists travelling the Madawaska River from Palmer Rapids may use the island as a lunch stopover as it is now being used. The area will be maintained by Park staff under the Crown land recreation program.

11.0 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The management plan will be reviewed every ten years following its approval or as the need arises. Data collection and environmental monitoring will be conducted regularly.

Below is a list of projects that have been previously described in this Plan. This list appears in chronological order according to the individual project priority. The number of projects to be completed or partially completed will be based upon the availability and allocation of each year's capital funding.

Priority Rating	Project Description
1	Construct access points at Aumonds Bay, Buck Bay and Highland Creek
2	Develop interior campsites along the river, closing existing ones that are not appropriate.
3	Develop Park Operating and Emergency Measures Strategies
4	Develop walking trails at Mt. Jamieson and into Turtle Lake.
5	Develop a park brochure
6	Upgrade the Green Lake Road
7	Develop Mt. Jamieson Campground
8	Develop a Vegetation Strategy
9	Develop a Visitor Services Strategy
10	Develop a Marketing Strategy
11	Develop Palmer Point access point.

12.0 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The planning process for the Madawaska River commenced in 1980-81. In the summer of 1981 a display was set up at the Palmer Rapids Work Centre showing the background information that had been collected. The public was invited to visit the Centre and view and comment on the information presented.

In February 1982, a newsletter was sent out informing interested public that the planning process for the proposed Madawaska River Park had been put on hold until the completion of the Pembroke District Land Use Guidelines. Park management planning was resumed in 1983

and a preliminary Management Plan for the Madawaska River Waterway Provincial Park was completed in July 1984. A summary of the preliminary plan was produced in a tabloid format and was given wide distribution. The draft Management Plan set out guidelines for the protection, development and management of the proposed Waterway Park which included the area of the Madawaska River from McFees Bay near Palmer Rapids to just south of Highland Falls near the Village of Griffith. The proposed management strategy provided details on how the river could be developed and managed to accommodate river users, yet protect its recreational, natural and historical characteristics. The plan met with considerable opposition, particularly from local residents and property owners who felt that traditional river uses would be jeopardized with the establishment of a park in that area.

In response to these expressed concerns, a public meeting was held in Combermere on November 26, 1984. At this meeting, which was attended by approximately 300 people, a commitment was made to form a user/interest group committee to advise and assist the planning team in the resolution of the key planning issues. A series of meetings were held with this user group and this plan responds to the input received.

The park size was reduced during the issues planning meetings eliminating proposed park lands between McFee Bay and Aumonds Bay, thus solving most problems concerning private land ownership and possible conflicts with park recreation users.

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